

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A method for subduing a fire comprising the steps of:
moving a vehicle supporting a jet engine to a location in front of the fire;
operating ~~[[a]]~~ the jet turbine to draw surrounding, ambient air therein and therethrough to form an exhaust;
directing the exhaust either directly at or in front of the front wall of the flames of the fire, and not above the fire; ~~[[and]]~~
stabilizing the vehicle and jet engine by countering the exhaust of the jet engine with an adjustable counterbalancing mechanism secured to the vehicle; and,
forcing pressurized generally inert particulate under pressure into the exhaust of the turbine from a separate retardant supply tank, the particulate generally not reacting with foliage or animals if left in place after subduing the fire.
~~introducing a first retardant into the exhaust.~~
2. (cancelled)
3. (cancelled)
4. (previously presented) The method of Claim 3 wherein the dust is selected from the group consisting of: granite dust, limestone dust, and fine sand.
5. (currently amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein the step of introducing a first retardant includes forcing pressurized generally inert particulate under pressure is ~~introduced~~ into the exhaust of the turbine by directing the first retardant from a separate retardant supply tank into the exhaust.
6. (original) The method of Claim 5 wherein the first retardant is directed into the exhaust through a pressurized conduit having an opening proximate the exhaust.
7. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1 further including the step of dousing the fire with either or both water and a second retardant.
8. (original) The method of Claim 7 wherein the fire is a forest or brush fire and the second retardant is a chemical flame retardant.

9. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1 wherein the front wall of the fire is a moving front of the fire and the exhaust is directed generally against the movement of the front of the fire.

10. (cancelled)

11. (cancelled)

12. (currently amended) A method for subduing a fire comprising the steps of:
moving a vehicle supporting a jet engine to a location in front of the fire;
operating ~~[[a]]~~ the jet turbine drawing surrounding, ambient air therein and
therethrough to form an exhaust;
directing the exhaust into a moving front wall of the fire, generally against the
movement of the front wall of the fire;
stabilizing the vehicle and jet engine by countering the exhaust of the jet engine
with an adjustable counterbalancing mechanism secured to the vehicle;
~~supplying dust from a dust supply tank into the exhaust-~~ forcing generally inert
particulate under pressure into the exhaust of the turbine from a separate retardant supply tank,
the particulate generally not reacting with foliage or animals if left in place after subduing the
fire; and,
dousing the fire with either or both water and a retardant.

13. (original) The method of Claim 12 wherein the dust is selected from the group consisting of: granite dust, limestone dust, and fine sand, the fire is a forest or brush fire and the retardant is a chemical flame retardant, and the dust is directed into the exhaust through a pressurized conduit having an opening proximate the exhaust.

14. (previously presented) A method for subduing a fire comprising the step of directing exhaust of a turbine into an area just in front of a front wall of the fire to dislodge material from land near the fire causing the dislodged material to disperse into the fire.

15. (previously presented) The method of Claim 14 wherein the front wall of the fire is a moving front of the fire and the exhaust is directed generally against the movement of the front wall of the fire.

16. (original) The method of Claim 14 wherein the material is dust and the turbine is a jet turbine.

17. (original) The method of Claim 14 further including the step of dousing the fire with either or both water and a retardant.

18. (original) The method of Claim 17 wherein the fire is a forest or brush fire and the retardant is a chemical flame retardant.

19. (cancelled)

20. (cancelled)

21. (cancelled)

22. (currently amended) An apparatus for subduing a fire comprising:
a vehicle;
a turbine affixed to the vehicle having an exhaust; [[and,]]
a generally inert particulate forced under pressure into the exhaust from a separate retardant supply tank, the particulate generally not reacting with foliage or animals if left in place after subduing the fire; and,

an adjustable counterbalancing mechanism affixed to the vehicle to counteract the force of the exhaust and stabilize the vehicle and the jet engine.

23. (original) The apparatus of Claim 22 wherein the counterbalancing mechanism includes a weight and a powered cylinder attached to the weight for moving the weight to the desired position.

24. (original) The apparatus of Claim 22 further including a support affixed to the vehicle for the turbine permitting the turbine to rotate in multiple planes.

25. (original) The apparatus of Claim 22 further including at least two fuel tanks connected to the turbine and a plurality of pumps for transferring fuel to the turbines.

26. (original) The apparatus of Claim 22 further including an adjustable nozzle connected to the turbine.

27. (original) The apparatus of Claim 22 further including:
a supply of a retardant;
a conduit connected to the supply of retardant for transporting the retardant into the exhaust; and,

a compressor for forcing the retardant through the conduit.

28. (original) The apparatus of Claim 27 wherein the retardant is dust.

29. (original) The apparatus of Claim 28 wherein the dust is selected from the group consisting of: granite dust, limestone dust, and fine sand.

30. (original) The apparatus of Claim 27 further including a moveable crane boom affixed to the vehicle and an adjustable nozzle attached to the crane, the retardant being supplied to the nozzle.

31. (original) The apparatus of Claim 30 further including an exhaust tube affixed to an outlet of the turbine, directing the exhaust to a position proximate the nozzle.